



## Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifiers CMS-10816]

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on CMS' intention to collect information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (the PRA), federal agencies are required to publish notice in the *Federal Register* concerning each proposed collection of information (including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information) and to allow 60 days for public comment on the proposed action. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding our burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** When commenting, please reference the document identifier or OMB control number. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted in any one of the following ways:

1. *Electronically.* You may send your comments electronically to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for "Comment or Submission" or "More Search Options" to find the information collection document(s) that are accepting comments.

2. *By regular mail.* You may mail written comments to the following address:

CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs

Division of Regulations Development

Attention: Document Identifier/OMB Control Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Room C4-26-05

7500 Security Boulevard

Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

To obtain copies of a supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed collection(s) summarized in this notice, you may make your request using one of following:

1. Access CMS' Web Site address at Web Site address at

[https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-](https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing)

[Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing](https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William N. Parham at (410) 786-4669.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Contents*

This notice sets out a summary of the use and burden associated with the following information collections. More detailed information can be found in each collection's supporting statement and associated materials (see **ADDRESSES**).

CMS-10816 Medicare Part C and Medicare Part D Enrollment Form Interviews

Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. The term "collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires federal agencies to publish a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an

existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, CMS is publishing this notice.

### *Information Collection*

1. *Type of Information Collection Request:* New Collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Medicare Part C and Medicare Part D Enrollment Form Interviews; *Use:* As CMS moves towards stratified reporting of quality measures and addressing healthcare inequity, highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the ability to analyze disparities across Medicare programs and policies depends on the ability to access and collect reliable race and ethnicity data consistently from Medicare Part C and Part D plans. The recent Executive Orders (EO) 13985 on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government and EO 14031 on Advancing Equity, Justice, and Opportunity for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, have focused attention on the need for CMS to improve the collection and quality of its enrollees' race and ethnicity data, especially at the disaggregated level. Collecting complete race/ethnicity data is important to CMS because CMS has interest in identifying patterns of differences across many key process and care outcomes by sociodemographic characteristics, including race and ethnicity.

CMS' primary objective for the interviews is to identify the drivers of nonresponse to the race and ethnicity questions. Specifically, we aim to solicit detail on whether and what concerns drove individuals' nonresponse to these items, including (but not limited to) (a) concerns about confidentiality of their data, (b) concerns about how their race and ethnicity data would be used, including concerns about whether disclosing such information could in any way affect eligibility for Medicare benefits (which it would not), or (c) concerns about response options (e.g. missing response options for race or ethnicity groups in which they may identify). We also intend to explore whether it is possible to amend the race and ethnicity elements on Part C/D enrollment form to address any of those concerns, and if so, how. Additionally, we plan to ask whether there are other – beyond the Part C/D enrollment form – vehicles for collecting race and ethnicity

information that would be more acceptable to non-responders, and if so, what those are.; *Form Number:* CMS-10816 (OMB control number: 0938-New); *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Individuals and Households; *Number of Respondents:* 120; *Total Annual Responses:* 120; *Total Annual Hours:* 114. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Deme Umo at 410-786-8854).

Dated: August 17, 2022.

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**William N. Parham, III,**

*Director,*

*Paperwork Reduction Staff,*

*Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.*

**4120-01-U-P**

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